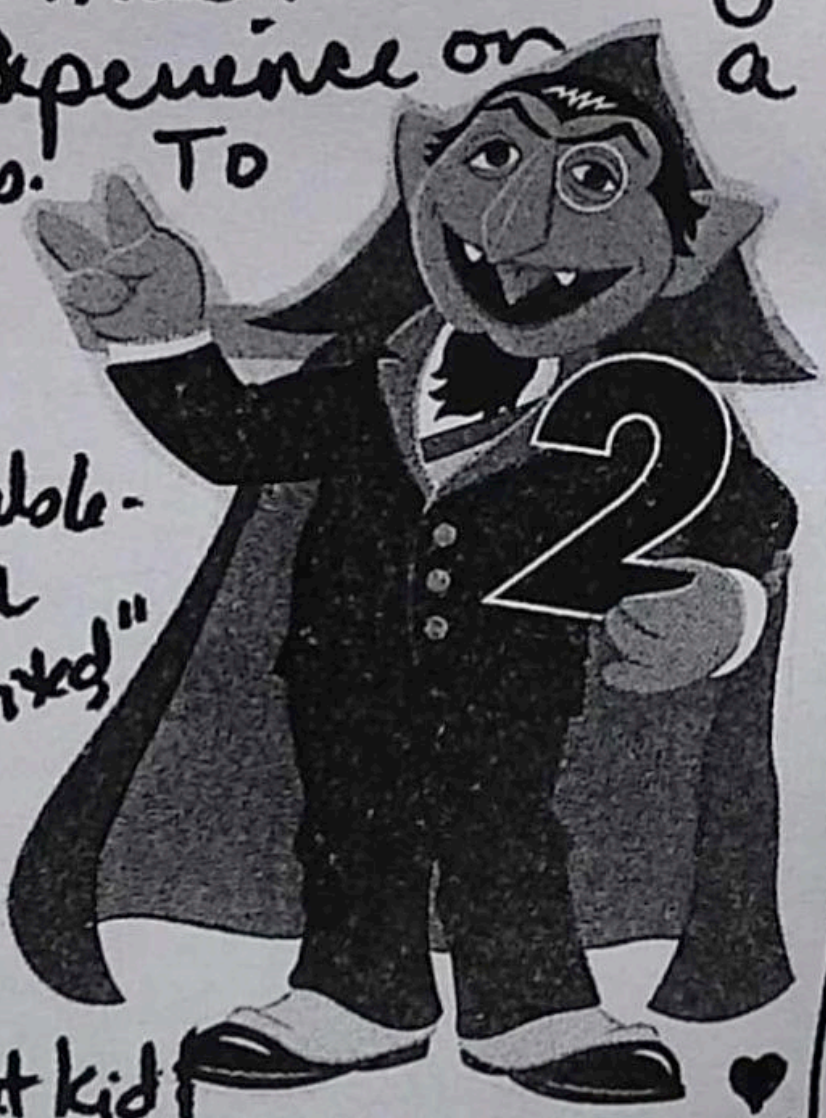
roots

wings

Emiliano turned two on February 7, and I would like to officially state that the "terrible twos" is not a myth! It is very much a reality that we experience on a daily basis. To use that diplomatic, parental double-speak: he's a "handful," "spirited," keeps us on our toes, etc. Oh, but do we love that kid!



Warning! Tootin' horn alert! Sometimes I like to think that the intensity of Emiliano's tantrums is only equivalent to the intensity of his passion and intelligence. A boy so incredibly smart must get so frustrated when not able to fully express himself. Or maybe it's more that he equates our "no's" with us just not getting what

it is that he wants and why he must have it! He's probably wondering how he ended up with such knucklehead parents.

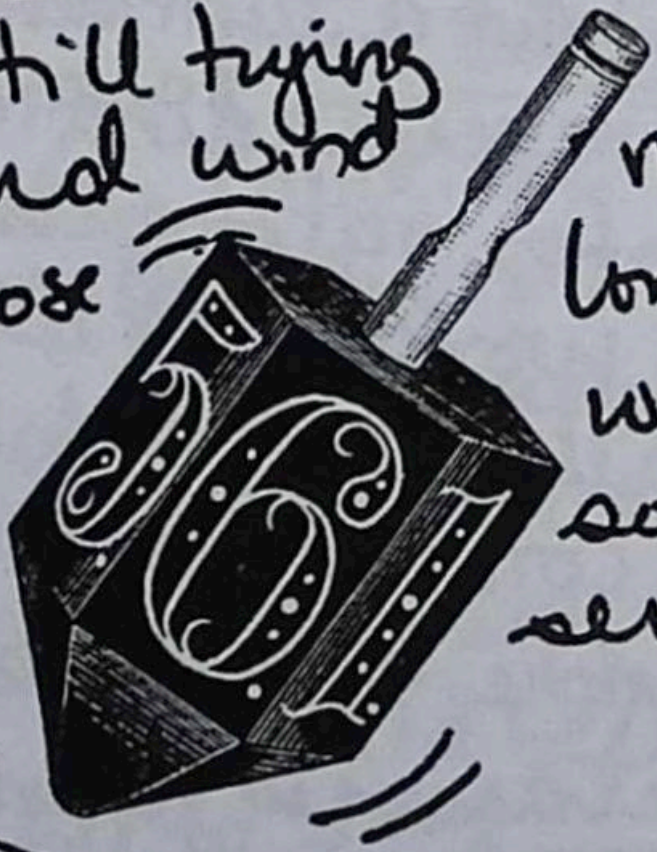
Equivalent or not, he's totally brilliant. I was looking at the infant development chart in Dr. Sears' The Baby Book, and pretty much all the things listed for 18-24 month olds he's been doing for quite some time. I love reading that he should be able to say

"20-50 intelligible words" and know that his vocabulary is HUGE. I also breathe a sigh of relief when I read that "normal" behavior includes tantrums, biting, and screaming. Whew! This past week he had a tantrum that seemed never-ending. It went on for so long that I started wondering what's the smallest size straight jackets come in.

Everyone I talk to says this behavior is normal

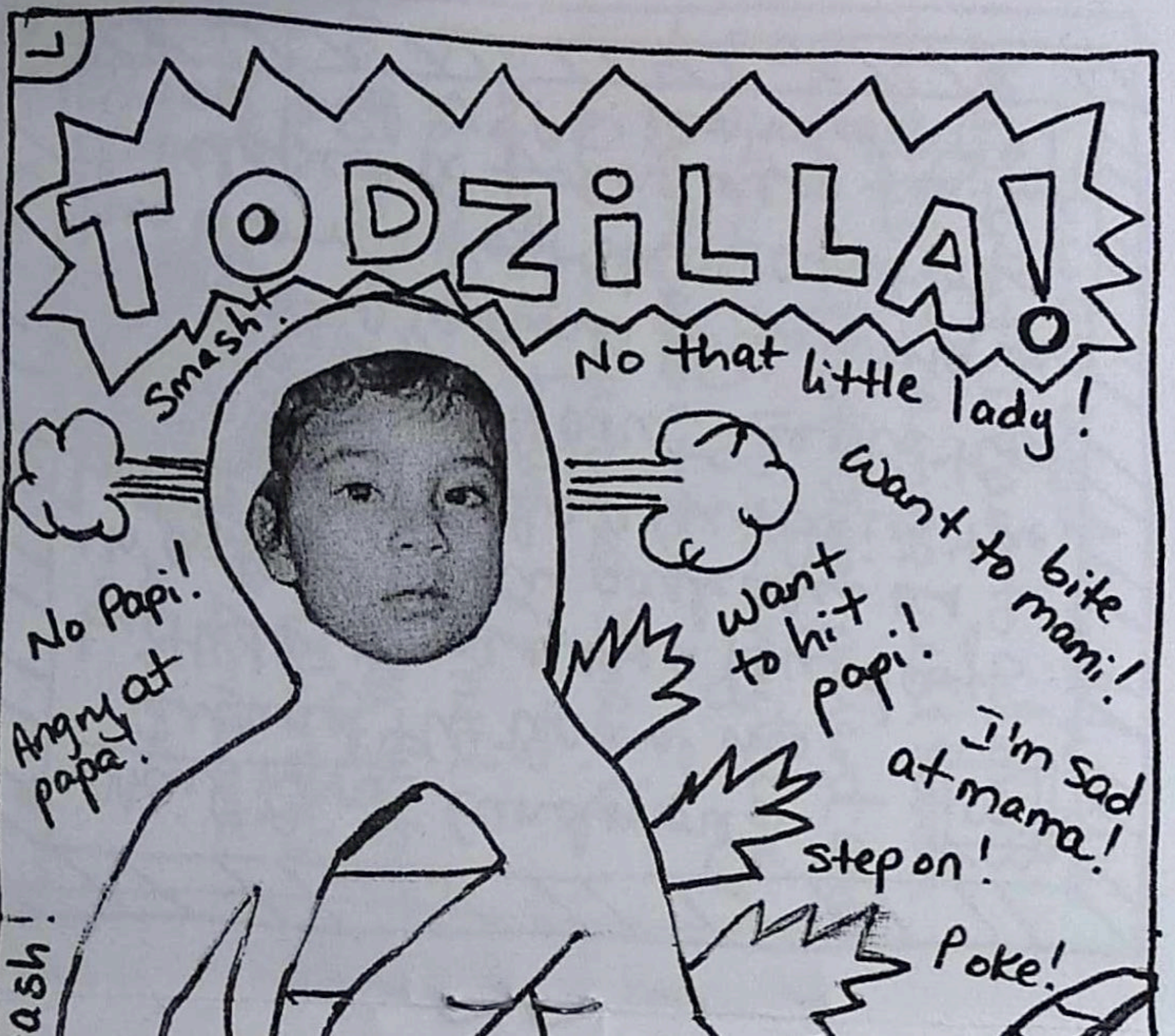
for this age and that he'll be okay. But I have to admit that it's scary as hell when you're a first-time parent and don't really have anything to compare it to!

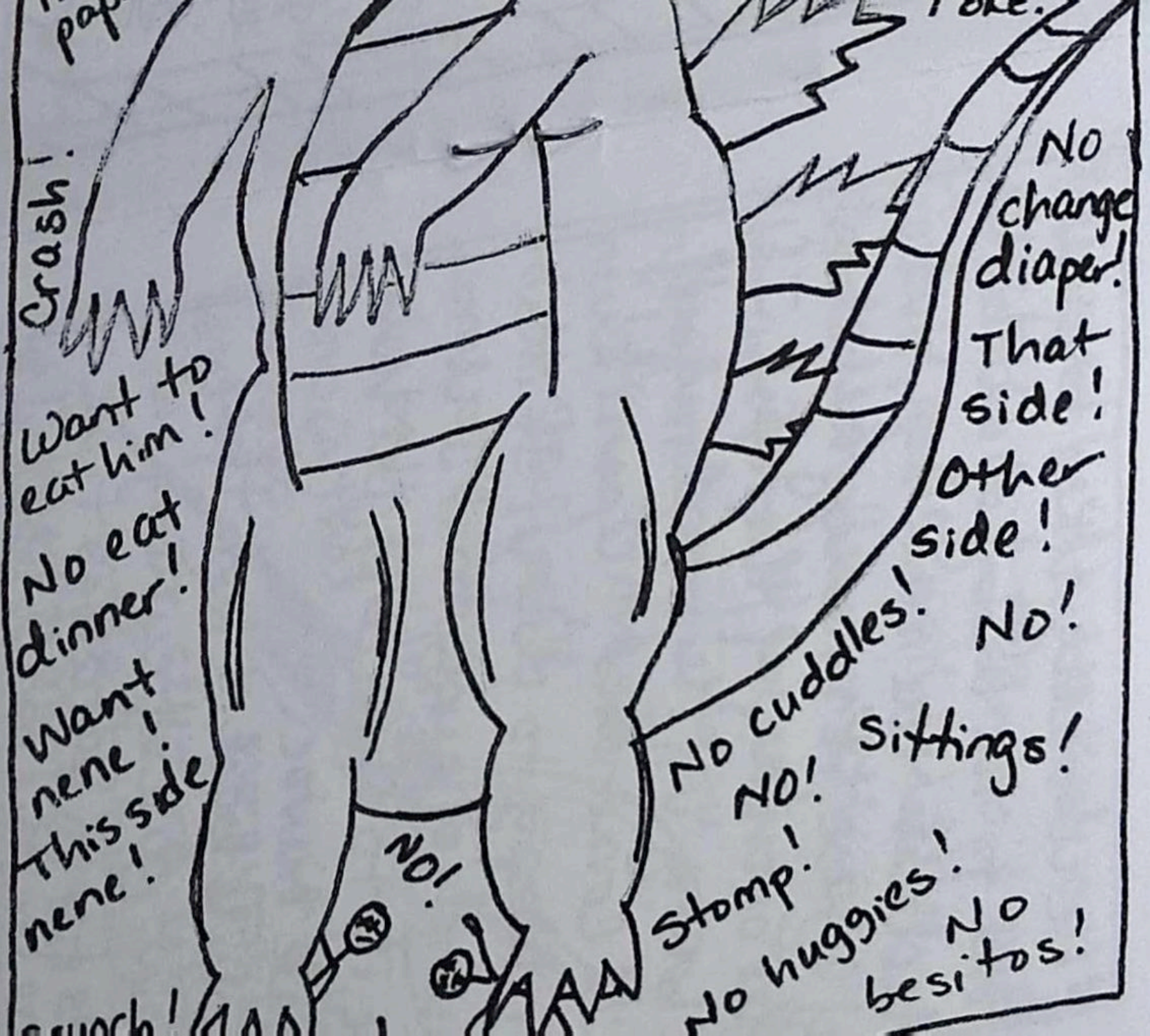
All I know is that if he is still trying to bite and wind mill with those long, lanky arms when he's ten, someone is in trouble!



Mail Love! (and more)

Around the time of his birthday there were a few days in a row where packages or birthday cards arrived in the mail for Emiliano. Seems that Emiliano is now following in his mom's footsteps and has developed a fondness for the good old USPS. [Continued on P. 97]

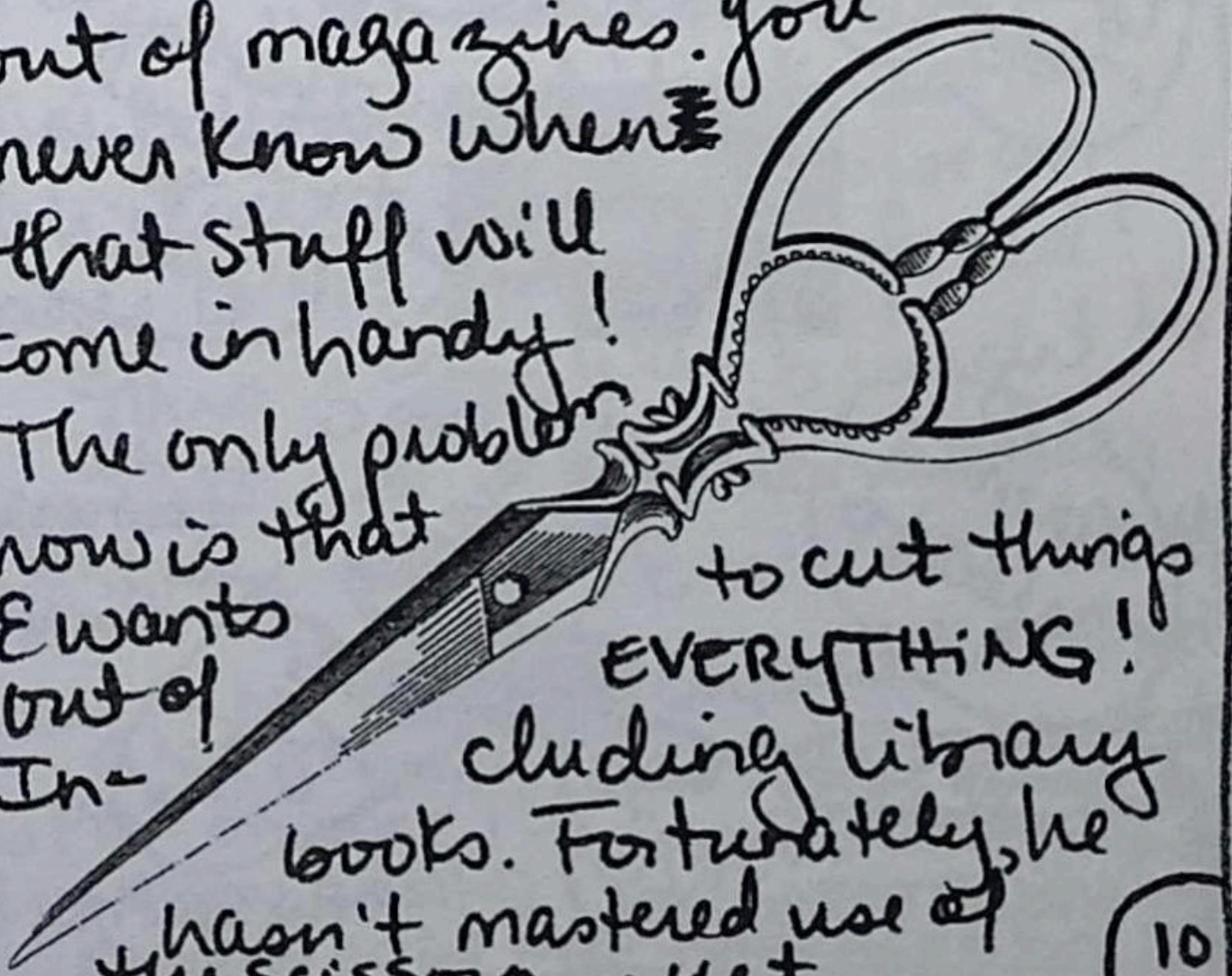

TODZILLA!
Smash!
No that little lady!
No Papi!
Angry at papa!
want to bite mami!
want to hit papi!
I'm sad at mama!
step on!
Poke!
ash!


Crash!
Want to eat him!
No eat dinner!
Want nene! This side nene!
NO!
Squish!
Stomp!
No huggies!
No besitos!
No cuddles!
NO!
Sittings!
No change diaper!
That side!
Other side!
NO!

He usually likes to walk out to the lobby of our building to check the mail box, but of course, it's really all about the opening of the mail. If I bring in the mail myself he'll command "Open it!" I'm happy to oblige. If it's a bunch of junk mail I'll give it to him and let him wreak havoc.

Awhile back I had the brilliant idea of cutting out items from catalogs that come in the mail that I

thought he'd get a kick out of. Little did I know it would lead to get another little obsession for something I too am fond of - cutting stuff out of magazines. You never know when that stuff will come in handy! The only problem now is that E wants to cut out of In-



to cut things EVERYTHING! cluding library books. Fortunately, he hasn't mastered use of the scissors ... yet.

(Fairly) New Words/Phases

- Veggie juice

Oh, that's tangy!

It's too spicy!

*He's in his parrot phase so pretty much anything he says

Thank you woman with the bun.

to the waitress at Ras Dashen

Mami's Cafecito

Mijan's favorite rock band!

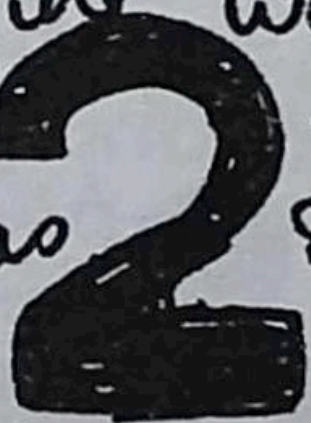
--the Smiths (ahem)

Favorite Songs: "Bein' Green", "Beans, Beans", "Violin" (TMBG), "You are My Sunshine", "I Love Trash", more

This is what happens when you have a child and are trying to crank out a zine about him while he naps: (1) you screw up the order of the pages, and (2) you don't give a ****!

This was supposed to be page* 14 (following the book section, which was supposed to be on pages 12 & 13). There, all fixed!

This 3rd one was brought to you by the number TWO! Oh, and Emiliano would say, "tyoeu" Oh, and the (*) next to PBS on page 13 was only to say that they show ads for Earth's Best baby foods followed by an ad for McDonald's. Hmm.

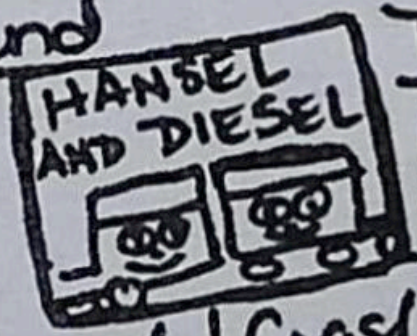


In recent months E has been watching more stuff on the television than he did in the past. I don't know if we have it in us to be hard core militant no-t.v. parents (though I wish I did), so we do the next best thing (we think) and limit viewing to stuff on PBS* or old "Sesame Street" videos (from the public library or purchased).

Fortunately,

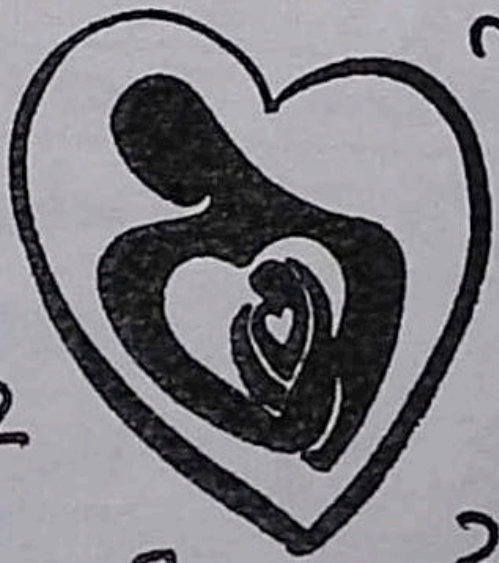
E's love of books has not waned. I still bring stacks of books from the library; he still loves having them read to him. He memorizes these books word-for-word. Man, how I envy that fresh, uncluttered mind!

Here are some recent favorites: Richard Scarry's Cars and Trucks and Things That Go; Alphabeep by Debora Pearson; Smash! Crash! by Jon Scieszka; Hansel and Diesel & The Ugly Truckling by David Gordon; All Aboard the Dinotrain by Deb Lund; Mister Seahorse by Eric Carle.



Bye!

[redacted]@yahoo.com



March 2008